

Tasmanian Field Naturalists' Club (TFNC)

BULLETIN NO. 252 SUPPLEMENT TO THE "TASMANIAN NATURALIST"

OCTOBER, 1988

The Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club is devoted to the study of all forms of Natural History, and is comprised of both experts and beginners. We cover a wide variety of topics, and we support conservation. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month, except January, in the CSIRO Conference Room, Stowell Ave, Battery Point, at 7.45 p.m. Outings are usually held the following weekend, meeting outside the new entrance to the Museum, Macquarie Street.

The Club's address is G.P.O. Box 68A, Hobart, 7001 and the Secretary is Ms Helen Davidson, phone 25 2754.

P R O G R A M M E

- Sat. 29th October 10 a.m. Outing to collect freshwater invertebrates etc. for SGAP display. Please bring nets, jars and plastic bags.
- Thurs. 3rd Nov. Assistance is required from 9 a.m. onwards, in setting up the display at the SGAP Bicentennial Flower Show in the City Hall.
- Thurs. 3rd Nov. 7.45 p.m. Wayne Fulton of Inland Fisheries will give an illustrated talk on Freshwater Fishes of Tasmania.
- Fri. Nov. 4th to Mon. Nov. 7th Members are required to staff the display from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Please let Marjorie Wall know what times you will be in attendance so that a roster can be drawn up. This is a great opportunity to publicise our club and obtain new members. We need your help.
- Thurs. 1st Dec. The author, Elisabeth de Quincey will speak on the History of Mt. Wellington - a fascinating topic.
- Sat. 3rd Dec. Something different! At approx. 5 a.m. we will watch the sunrise from the pinnacle of Mt. Wellington before partaking of breakfast and a stroll around the plateau. We will also look at some points of interest on the mountain mentioned in the talk on Thursday. Meet at Fern Tree Tavern at 4.30 a.m. Further details at December meeting.

1989 Membership Rates Membership is renewable every year on 1st January.

The club has managed to keep the fees at the same level for the past 4 years. However, due to rising costs associated with the running of the club and the production of "The Tasmanian Naturalist", it has been found necessary to increase the fees for next year. The new membership rates are:

ADULTS.....\$15.00

FAMILIES.....\$18.00

STUDENTS, PENSIONERS AND HEALTH CARD HOLDERS.....\$10.00

(Journal Subscribers: Individual.....\$10.00 Institutions.....\$16.00)

OVERDUE SUBSCRIPTIONS If you find a red O.S. on the wrapper of your newsletter this means that you have not yet paid your 1988 subscription and that this is the last issue you will receive until you are again financial. We know that it is easy to overlook payment and suggest that, in future, fees are paid at the start of each year.

CORRECT ADDRESS Committee members are currently updating the mailing list and would appreciate it if you would let the Secretary (Helen Davidson) know if the address on your wrapper is incorrect (ph. 25 2754)

Long-lost Library Books???

If you have the following journals/newsletters, would you kindly return them to the Librarian, Helen Davidson, as soon as possible:

North Queensland Naturalist, No. 187, July 1988
Natural History, Nos. 3/87 and 5/87
The Launceston Naturalist, Vol. 20 Nos. 7 and 8 April/ May 1987
Nature Territory, Jan/Feb 1988
Victorian Naturalist, Vol. 104, No. 5 Sept/Oct 1987
The Queensland Naturalist, Vol. 28, Nos. 5-6 June 1988

Dr. D.L. Serventy

It is with deep regret that the club notes the death in early September of Dr. Dominic Louis Serventy, a member of TFNC for many years. Tasmanians will remember him as a pioneer in the biology of muttonbirds and co-author of "Australian Seabirds". He was a source of inspiration and guidance to generations of Western Australian Naturalists through his involvement with the Naturalists Club there.

New Zealand Nature Journeys

If you are considering a trip to New Zealand, Helen Davidson has information on guided tours and cruises to fascinating areas rarely accessible to naturalists.

Historical Night and Outing Re-enactment

The wonderful "turn of the century" costumes, the fascinating displays and the delicious olden-day supper transported members back to the early days of the club, when the average attendance was about 70, and many eminent Hobart ladies and gentlemen were honoured members. Among our special guests were David Elliott and Margaret Shaw, the son and daughter of Dr. E.A. Elliott, founder of the Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club, and Mr. Frank Green who attended his first Easter Camp-Out in 1920. Our thanks to all who made the evening a truly memorable 84th anniversary celebration.

On a pleasant morn, about 20 members partook of a delightful billy-tea and damper repast, in a clearing at the top of Old Farm Road, Cascades (the same spot that Lady Jane Franklin enjoyed breakfast before climbing Mt. Wellington 150 years ago). One group then followed the wet, pristine gullies of the Myrtle Gully Track, while another took a more open path which crossed many gushing streams, everyone in search of the elusive ferns *Schizaea bifida* and *Lindsaea linearis* and the other plants collected on the 1904 outing. A refreshing shower greeted our return to camp where bird, plant and invertebrate lists were compiled. Following lunch, enjoyed around the camp fire, members explored the alternate track, while discussing the "good old days", before bidding one another fond farewells at the close of a wonderful outing.

We wish you all a happy holiday season. Remember - no meeting in January.

